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Driver may have been asleep before fatal crash

ROADS Police believe a motorist may have fallen asleep at the wheel before two vehicles collided head-on in the city's southeast yesterday morning, leaving one man dead.

The collision occurred along 84 Street and 17th Avenue SE just before 10 a.m. Crews pronounced a man in his 20s dead at the scene. Another man in his 40s was taken hospital and is now in stable condition.

"For some reason, one of the vehicles crossed the centre line and we had a head-on collision," Insp. Rob Williams said, adding police don't believe alcohol was a factor but one of the men may have been coming home from a night shift. KRISTA SYLVESTER/ METRO CALGARY

Celebrity Buzz pg 29

Poison singer a Cyrus fan

On the web
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Undies Auction

ROBIN KONIUSKY/FOR METRO CALGARY

Students, teachers and staff bare the goods at the Live Underwear Auction held at Mount Royal University's Wyckham House yesterday, where $1,320 was raised to help fund women in crisis and transition at the YWCA Mary Dover House.

'I just want my money'

Abrupt NW salon closure leaves woman searching for refund

KRISTA SYLVESTER
krista.sylvester@metronews.ca

The mysterious closure of a northwest tanning salon has left a Calgary woman in the dark.

Stacey Flagler alleges she's been led on a wild goose chase to get a refund for over $200 worth of tanning minutes she hasn't been able to use since last month, after Bermuda Beach Tanning at 11245 Valley Ridge Dr. NW closed without notice.

"They told me to use my minutes at the Okotoks location, but that has since been shut down, too. I have been asking for my money back, but they keep giving me excuses," Flagler said.

According to information obtained by Metro, one of the proprietors of Bermuda Beach Tanning is Shayne Lorne Malsbury.

Further investigation into Malsbury's business history shows the Alberta Securities Commission (ASC) imposed a 20-year securities trading ban in July 2009, since it alleges Malsbury Investment Corporation Securities and Shayne Malsbury illegally raised approximately $12 million from 171 Alberta investors. This was confirmed by ASC spokesperson Tamera Van Brunt.

There is no connection between the tanning salon and the securities ban.

Flagler said Bermuda Beach Tanning contacted her via email earlier this week after she threatened legal action against them — but she believes she is being misled.

"They said they were going to open a new salon and honour the minutes, but I find that hard to believe. I just want my money back," she said.

Service Alberta spokesperson Mike Berezowsky said anyone with concerns about the business practices of the tanning salon can contact them and an investigation can be launched.

"Sometimes businesses succumb, and there isn't a lot we can do unless they were taking money when they knew they couldn't fulfil the business," Berezowsky said.

Attempts to reach the salon owners went unanswered.

Provincial funding bolsters projects

KRISTA SYLVESTER
krista.sylvester@metronews.ca

INFRASTRUCTURE It's full steam ahead for 23 major municipal infrastructure projects as the city announced it struck a new deal with the province to continue with previously approved plans.

Calling it a "win-win" situation for taxpayers, Mayor Dave Bronconnier was singing a different tune than after the 2010 provincial budget, which was announced without promised Municipal Sustainability Funding.

"This is ... very positive; it's a win for taxpayers, a win for Calgary ... and a win for a province who said, 'Yes, we can sit down and work with Calgary,'" Bronconnier said yesterday.

Under the new deal, the city will pay seven per cent interest instead of the original five per cent, which will equate to an additional $45 million in interest, according to Bronconnier. But he said it's a small price to pay for much-needed infrastructure.

"I don't see any merits in paying a whole pile of money to lawyers and litigation, and I would rather see it going to concrete building at LRT stops," Bronconnier said, adding that the city would have been on the hook for $140 million in broken agreements.

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The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Alberta provides tax tips on an annual basis as a public service. The tips are intended to be used as general guidance. For specific advice about filing your 2009 tax return, please consult with the Canada Revenue Agency or your personal tax professional.

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Local

"It's amazing that people have a hard time accepting that in this day and age."

Sean Durfy, 43, on his decision to resign as CEO of WestJet to spend more time with his family. Durfy, left, has a wife, a seven-year-old daughter and three-year-old son.

News in brief

COURT An Alberta woman accused of killing her two young sons was not present for her first scheduled court appearance. Allyson McConnell was to appear before a judge in Wetaskiwin on two counts of second-degree murder, but her case has been put over to March 23. McConnell was charged after the bodies of Jayden, who was 10 months old, and his 2½-year-old brother, Connor, were discovered Feb. 1 in their home in Millet, south of Edmonton.

CHARGES Chestermere RCMP are examining cellphone videos of a noon-hour fight between two groups of girls and say more charges could be laid. The St. Gabriel the Archangel students gathered at lunch in a nearby area where a fight ensued. Three teens have been charged with causing a disturbance.

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@MechaPorno It looks like its going to rain, and I really wish it would. But knowing Calgary, it would turn into snow, or freeze over night. Or both.

@epicMK What a grey day in downtown Calgary. It was suppose to be 19 degrees today! =(

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Celebrate the Irish way

City pub prepares for St. Patrick's Day partiers, but no green beer

IMAN BUKHARI
for Metro Calgary

Calgary is green with life as St. Patrick's Day is celebrated throughout the city in numerous ways.

Throughout the day and night, diners and pubs will be thriving with excitement and happy folks.

James Joyce Irish Pub on Stephen Avenue is starting the celebrations early, opening at 8 a.m.

"Line ups will start early in the morning and everyone will come and have a good time because, on St. Patrick's Day, it's all about having a good time," said owner Gerard Curran.

Several bands, musicians, and dancers will perform at the pub throughout the night to create a traditional Irish ambience.

"Everyone will celebrate being Irish for a day, even if they aren't Irish."

A typical St. Patrick's Day consists of Irish beer and the colour green. While the pub may be filled with an Irish aura, it will not be serving green beer.

"It's the biggest day of the year and we will be serving beers such as Guinness, which is a solid icon of Ireland."

If you're headed there, VIP tickets go for $30 and are guaranteed with no wait in line. Advanced tickets are $10 and tickets at the door are $15.

IMAN BUKHARI/FOR METRO CALGARY

Gerard Curran, owner of The James Joyce Irish Pub & Restaurant, is excited for St. Paddy's day in Calgary.

Police praise possible changes to provincial laws

ANDREAS MORSE
for Metro Canada

JUSTICE Calgary police Chief Rick Hanson said yesterday's proposed provincial crime legislation is another tool to build safer communities.

Three bills were proposed in the legislature yesterday in order to help police maintain safe communities throughout the province.

"We introduced it in direct response to what the police have told us they need," said Minister of Justice and Attorney General Alison Redford.

"None of these laws on its own is the ultimate solution and we realize that."

Hanson said it's another way to make communities safer.

"There's no one single fix to address the crime issues in this province, especially those that are involving organized crime or gangs," said Hanson. "But all of these legislative changes and additional police officers are all working in support of the average Albertan to feel safer."

Proposed legislation

- Bill 10 — the Victims Restitution and Compensation Payment Amendment Act — will expand the range of victims who can be compensated for sustaining harm due to crime.
- Bill 11 — the Witness Security Act — will provide short-term protective services to witnesses who agree to give evidence.
- Bill 12 — the Body Armour Control Act — will allow police to seize body armour from individuals who don't have a permit for legitimate use.

Rick Hanson

RCMP launch avalanche investigation

REVELSTOKE A 10-person investigation team from the RCMP major crimes unit is looking into the events surrounding a deadly avalanche on Boulder Mountain near Revelstoke, B.C.

Kurtis Reynolds and Shay Snortland, two 33-year-old Alberta residents, were killed, and 31 others hurt Saturday when a wall of snow came down on a crowd of about 200 watching a snowmobiling event.

RCMP Cpl. Dan Moskaluk says police will gather as much information as possible, and recommend criminal charges to Crown counsel if supported by the evidence.

Given the unique circumstances, Moskaluk says he expects the investigation to be long and complex.

The search-and-recovery effort ended Monday after rescue teams and trained dogs found no other signs that any other people were trapped under the snow.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Blogs SpinDoctor questions potential grey areas of Stephen Harper's YouTube town hall and Hollywood Rants on the perfect match between the Muppets and their newest human co-star

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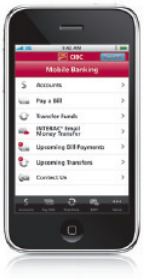

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Leaders gather for St. Pat's fundraiser

Over 900 of the city's most influential leaders are gathering today at the Petroleum Club to raise money for local charities in the name of St. Patrick's Day. METRO CALGARY

All's not lost in sewers

City will fish for items that fall through drains

IMAN BUKHARI
for Metro Calgary

Ever dropped something down the storm drain? Well, it can be retrieved, says the city's water services.

College student Josep Zapanta, 19, was walking down Centre Street when his cellphone vibrated and fell out of his back pocket into a sewage drain.

"I was in a rush and I couldn't call anyone because my phone dropped," said Zapanta.

Zapanta realized retrieving it was a stretch especially after finding out the sewer grate was locked. Before long, Zapanta gave up.

"It was late at night and I couldn't see a thing down there, so I just left."

Zapanta believes he is not the only one who has lost a valuable item down a sewage drain and not known what to do.

Bill Boyes of Calgary Water Services said citizens are encouraged to call 311 for help in such circumstances.

"The crew comes down and fishes for the item," said Boyes.

Boyes said the crew usually takes 45 minutes to an hour to get there during the day, but response time might not be as quick during the late hours. They can also get it the next day, he said

IMAN BUKHARI/FOR METRO CALGARY

Josep Zapanta lost his cellphone down a sewer downtown — and City of Calgary Water Services says it's possible to retrieve lost items from the city's drain system.

Dispatch centralization put on hold: Minister

EMERGENCY SERVICES Health Minister Gene Zwozdesky is suspending a plan to centralize Alberta's ambulance dispatch services until a review can determine if the move is still practical.

The temporary freeze also applies to a division of fire and emergency medical services in dozens of Alberta communities.

The minister says in some cases when ambulances are dispatched, communities are being left without enough people to respond to a fire and vice versa.

"You can't have everybody flooding and flocking from the fire side to deal with another emergency and leaving the other plank open," he said yesterday. "We have to figure out how that can be done in a better, more efficient way."

Complaints are also surfacing in rural Alberta about having all ambulances dispatched from Edmonton, Calgary and Grimshaw, said Zwozdesky.

"Our concern is always with respect to rapid access for emergency purposes and to ensure that certain standards are met and that patient safety is never compromised," the minister said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

EDUCATION The Shawnessy community in the city's southwest is home to a new Grade 5 to Grade 8 school with an enrolment of approximately 500 students. The newly opened Samuel W. Shaw School features a modern two-storey library, a dance studio, a fitness centre, a band room, a gymnasium and an art room, says the Calgary Board of Education.

HOMELESS Premier Ed Stelmach announced yesterday the Mustard Seed Society will get $12 million in funding to be put towards building 112 housing units for homeless people in Edmonton and Calgary. The funding is part of an ongoing provincial strategy to end homelessness within 10 years and adopts the Housing First approach. The announcement was made in Edmonton.

DEFICIT In a news release yesterday, the Wildrose Alliance Party claims that after more than a month of denials, the province's finance minister, Ted Morton, acknowledged in the legislature that the provincial deficit is actually $7.6 billion, instead of the stated $4.7 billion. "This PC Government's budget is nothing but a bunch of smoke and mirrors intended to hide just how poorly they've mismanaged our province's finances," said WAP MLA for Airdrie-Chestermer, Rob Anderson. METRO CALGARY

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Layton seeking limits on prorogation powers

Jack Layton is asking the House of Commons to set limits on the prime minister's power to suspend Parliament. The NDP leader is to introduce a motion today spelling out that the prime minister shall not prorogue Parliament for longer than seven days without the consent of a majority of MPs in the Commons. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Harper snuffs pot wishes

Stephen Harper may be using "new media" to reach younger voters but he's not going to grant them their favourite wish: to legalize pot. Harper fielded questions from Canadians during a 40-minute YouTube interview yesterday. Almost 2,000 questions were submitted by the public for others to vote on, and the favourites — by far — concerned legalization of marijuana. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Crackdown on youth crime

Tories want to 'protect society' with harsher charges, sentences

The Tory government wants to tighten the Youth Criminal Justice Act to give judges more power to consider "denunciation and deterrence" when sentencing violent offenders.

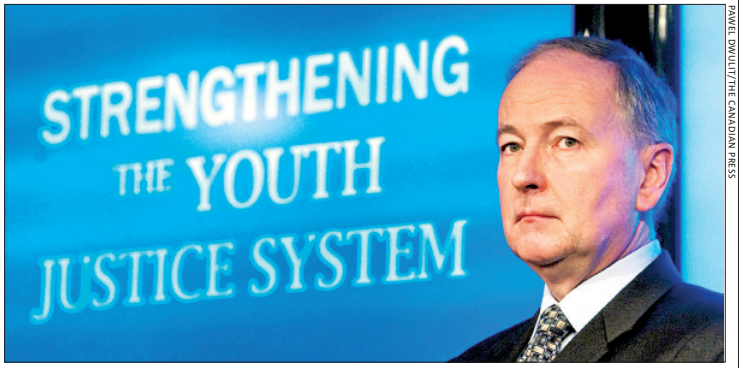
Justice Minister Rob Nicholson also wants to be able to charge and sentence youths with violent criminal acts when they engage in reckless behaviour — such as a car chase — that endangers the public but doesn't actually injure anyone.

"This legislation will simplify the rules to keep these offenders off the streets when necessary to protect society," Nicholson said at a news conference yesterday, flanked by the mothers of two youths who died at the hands of young offenders.

"In the handling of other violent and repeat young offenders, the court often lacks the tools necessary to impose appropriate sentences," said Nicholson.

Liberals and the Bloc Quebecois immediately denounced the changes as a regressive move toward retribution in the justice system, as opposed to rehabilitating offenders.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



PAWEL DWULIT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Minister of Justice Rob Nicholson listens to other speakers regarding an amendment to the Youth Criminal Justice Act in Ottawa yesterday.

Quota hike puzzles sealer

EAST COAST A fisherman with more than 50 years of experience hunting seals says there's no sense in raising the allowable catch for the mammals until market conditions improve.

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans announced Monday it's raising the quota for this year's East Coast hunt by 50,000 harp seals.

But Jack Troake, a veteran sealer, said the gesture "sounds a little stupid," given a market where seals only fetch about $15 each — a steep drop from the record $105 per pelt in 2006.

Opponents, meanwhile, said upping the quota is one in a series of political stunts that began last May when Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean sampled a slice of raw seal heart in Rankin Inlet.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Etiquette guide helps reporters cover sometimes-touchy Paralympics.

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News in brief

ISRAEL Foreign Affairs Minister Lawrence Cannon is taking a harder line against Israel's controversial decision to build settlements in East Jerusalem and now says he condemns the plan. That's the strongest language to date by a Conservative cabinet minister against Israel. THE CANADIAN PRESS

PM to make appearance at meeting of G20 'sherpas'
Negotiators from G20 countries, known as "sherpas," will be in Ottawa this week to prepare for a June summit in Toronto. THE CANADIAN PRESS

LEFTERIS PITARAKIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty speaking to the Canada-United Kingdom Chamber of Commerce in a London hotel yesterday.

Flaherty to G20: Tighten your belts

Canadian Finance Minister Jim Flaherty says other developed nations should come up with clearer plans on how they are going to get their weighty budget deficits under control.

Flaherty also urged the Group of 20 leading and industrialized countries to step up work on financial reforms ahead of the annual spring meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank in Washington D.C.

Flaherty said Greece's debt troubles were a timely reminder that world leaders need to agree on lasting international financial reform, and that tackling big deficits is necessary to restore confidence.

"We're obviously concerned about bumps in the road as we move forward with economic recovery from the crisis," Flaherty told reporters in London.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Feds mull flu vaccine options

CONTRACT The federal government has told the vaccine industry it wants to explore options for Canada's next pandemic flu vaccine contract.

In a request for information issued this week, the government says its new strategy will look at whether it is feasible and worthwhile to have a back-up supplier of vaccine. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Seeds of doubt over GM crops

DEBATE MPs are debating a private member's bill that proponents say would fill a critical gap in regulations governing genetically engineered seeds.

The bill presented by NDP agriculture critic Alex Atamanenko would require an analysis of potential harm to export markets before sales of any new genetically engineered seeds are allowed.

Atamanenko says current regulations ignore potential effects on export markets.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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U.S. warns against travel to Haiti

The U.S. State Department is expanding its warning against travel to Haiti, saying that four Americans have been killed since the Jan. 12 earthquake. The warning comes a week after two European aid workers were kidnapped and held for five days before being released. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Proposal turns to shark prey

China, Japan and Russia have helped defeat a proposal at a UN wildlife meeting that would have boosted conservation efforts for sharks. The nonbinding measure called for increased transparency in the shark trade and more research into the threat posed to sharks by illegal fishing. It had been expected to pass easily, but the U.S., the European Union and other supporters couldn't muster the two-thirds majority needed in yesterday's vote. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jogger killed by plane

Wrong place, wrong time as aircraft crash-lands on beach

A father of two on business in Hilton Head, South Carolina, was jogging on the beach and listening to his iPod when he was hit from behind and killed by a small plane making an emergency landing, officials said yesterday.

Robert Gary Jones, 38, of Georgia, died instantly Monday evening when he was hit by the single-engine plane, which had lost its propeller, said Beaufort County Coroner Ed Allen. The pilot's vision was blocked by oil on the windshield.

The coroner said Jones apparently did not see or hear the plane, which was "basically gliding."

His mother, Pauline Jones, said yesterday that he was in Hilton Head for work but was supposed to fly home to suburban Atlanta today for his daughter's third birthday.

Federal Aviation Administration records show the experimental Lancair IV-P plane that hit Robert Jones was registered to Edward I. Smith of Virginia.

Smith was on the beach with his plane yesterday and confirmed he was the pilot.

He said he did not want to talk about the crash and offered few details.

"I've got a lot of issues going on right now. I've got a plane that's all torn up. And I've got a young man that I killed," he said.

The plane started leaking oil at about 4,000 metres and the pilot tried originally to make it to Hilton Head Airport, said fire and rescue spokeswoman Joheida Fister.

The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and the National Transportation Safety Board were investigating.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ScanLife

Blackouts, street clashes. The Greek economic disaster continues.

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Bloody, but not violent, protest

THAILAND Thai protesters seeking a change of government turned to shock tactics yesterday, pouring litres of their own blood into a glistening puddle at the gate of the prime minister's office. The dramatic gesture, repeated in front of the headquarters of Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiava's Democrat Party, grabbed attention but put the "Red Shirt" protest movement no closer to its goal of forcing new elections.

Thousands of Red Shirts formed long lines yesterday to have their blood drawn by nurses.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAKCHAI LALIT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Protesters hold a bottle of donated blood before spilling it in front of Thailand's Government House yesterday in Bangkok.

News in brief

MIDDLE EAST Hundreds of Palestinians in east Jerusalem set tires and garbage bins ablaze yesterday and hurled rocks at Israeli riot police, who responded with rubber bullets and tear gas. The heaviest clashes in months broke out as an American envoy abruptly cancelled a visit, deepening a U.S.-Israeli diplomatic feud. The dispute with the U.S. was sparked by Israel's announcement of plans for 1,600 apartments. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Comment

Feeling blue over the Planet Earth

TheWestView

What's 12 feet tall and blue all over? If you've seen the movie Avatar — and who hasn't? — you'll know the answer to that question is the Na'vi, the incredibly cool, nearly naked aliens with cornrows and braids who live on the incredibly cool, beautiful planet known as Pandora, all threatened by the techno-military-industrial (and little) bad guys from Earth, who lust for a metaphorical mineral called "unobtanium."

That's us, folks.

People have begun to notice a strange thing when they take off their 3-D glasses and re-enter the real world after a two-hour 40-minute exposure to Pandora. This beautiful place, inhabited by intelligent (and really tall) beings who have a direct link to Aywa, a.k.a. Mother Nature, is so vividly drawn that the planet we actually live on, Earth, seems like a giant slum.

Moviegoers are pouring their hearts out on blogs and chat rooms, all mourning the loss of Eden, er Earth, wishing they were cool and connected like the Na'vi.

There's at least one group that's not lying around in a Pandora-induced coma. The Ancient Forest Alliance, based in Victoria, gets Avatar and understands its value in spawning a whole new generation of Na'vi-loving environmentalists. Not daunted by the anti-global warming backlash, the alliance has picked a likely forest near Port Renfrew and dubbed it "Avatar Grove."

ShareYourViews
calgaryletters@metronews.ca or via twitter @metrocalgary

Sounds so much better than Tree Farm Licence No. 46.

We dare you, says the alliance, to clear-cut this little slice of Pandora on Earth. If I'm the Teal-Jones Group, which owns the licence, I'd send my PR department to the movie to take notes. Can you imagine Hollywood actresses in cornrows chained to trees, weeping for Avatar Grove? The Ancient Forest Alliance can.

It's entirely possible the Last Battle for the Planet Earth will be played out in Canada. After all, James Cameron, Avatar's creator, is Canadian; his art director studied the Athabasca oil-sands project for its lurid images of environmental destruction.

And British Columbia is one of the last Pandora-like preserves on Earth. Its ancient forests (sounds better than old growth, no?) protect 1,600 species at risk and 60 per cent of the nation's evergreen trees.

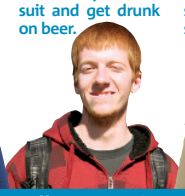
Even the Port Renfrew Chamber of Commerce, once a bastion of hewers of wood, now believes the best bet for the future is to save Avatar Grove for the tourists. If you loved the movie, stay tuned for the sequel — it's coming soon to an ancient forest near you.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.

Word on the street: How do you like to celebrate St. Patrick's Day?

Emma Tuck
Calgary
A: I went on a pub crawl and wore green tights with a green fanny pack. It was awesome.

Gabriel Moore
Calgary
A: I'm going to celebrate it on the actual day. But I will wear a leprechaun suit and get drunk on beer.

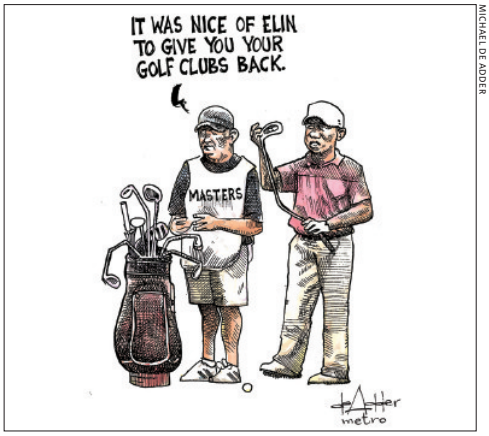


Lydia Guo
Toronto
A: I really don't do anything. To me, it's just any other day of the week. Besides, green doesn't suit me.

Phil Alba
Visiting Ottawa
A: Green beer, good friends and a bottle of Advil for the next day.

Emily Jacob
Vernon, B.C.
A: (I like to) drink. Usually I drink at a house party somewhere. (I will drink) anything like vodka. I like to drink green vodka.

Michael Machan
Edmonton
A: I like to get together with friends and family and just go out and celebrate. Sit down, have a few drinks and just enjoy it.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

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12 Pacific Rim Mining Corp. is searching for new projects after putting exploration in El Salvador on hold following the government revoking its mining permit, the company said yesterday after reporting deeper losses in the third quarter. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pacific Rim Mining deepens its loss

Business

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Toyota recall could cost $2B

A massive global recall, mounting legal bills and a battered reputation add up to a very expensive problem for Toyota.

How expensive? Depends who you ask.

With new developments emerging almost daily, predicting a final pricetag for the Japanese automaker is a daunting calculation that only some analysts have attempted.

The sole figure from Toyota itself came Feb. 4 with the company's October-December earnings results.

It estimated that the worldwide recall, now involving some 8.5 million cars, could cost up to 180 billion yen ($2.02 billion), with 100 billion yen for repairs and 80 billion yen in lost sales. It said the recalls may dent global demand for Toyota models by 100,000 vehicles.

Analysts with their own estimates say the total is bound to climb higher.

JP Morgan's Kohei Takahashi expects Toyota to take a one-time 500 billion yen ($5.6 billion) hit, including recall-related costs and litigation settlements.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

China Shanghai gets new transport hub

EUGENE HOSHIKO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A passenger goes through a security check at Hongqiao Airport's new second terminal that opened yesterday in Shanghai, China. The massive terminal and transport hub hopes to help the city handle the 70 million or more visitors it expects to attend the upcoming World Expo.

MDS to focus on isotopes

ISOTOPES Nuclear medicine company MDS Inc. has completed its strategic repositioning and will now focus on cost-cutting and improving its disrupted medical isotope business.

Ottawa-based MDS announced in September it would sell off most of its business units to focus on its Nordion nuclear medicine division, which sells radioactive isotopes used in medical imaging.

Steve West, who stepped in as chief executive in January, said yesterday the company closed the sale of the last of its non-core assets in early March. Shareholders recently approved a change in the company's name to Nordion Inc., to reflect its new focus.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Thieves steal $70M in drugs

CRIME Thieves broke into the warehouse of Eli Lilly & Co. early Sunday in Enfield, Conn., and stole about US$70 million in antidepressants and other prescription drugs, authorities said yesterday.

The thieves where they spent at least an hour loading pallets of drugs into a waiting vehicle.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brake pedal complaints prompt Honda recall

VEHICLES Honda is recalling hundreds of thousands of vehicles in Canada and the United States after some of the Japanese carmaker's customers complained about the feel of brake pedals.

Although the issue has no connection to similar problems with Toyota vehicles, Honda admits there is a heightened sensitivity in the industry to consumer complaints because of the public beating Toyota has been taking, particularly in the United States, over safety concerns with its vehicles.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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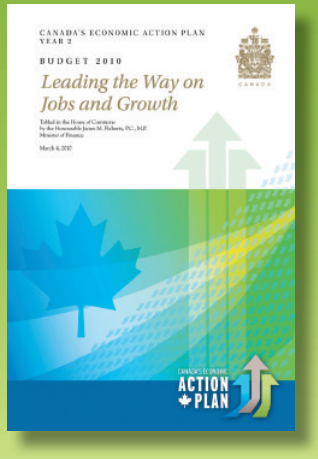

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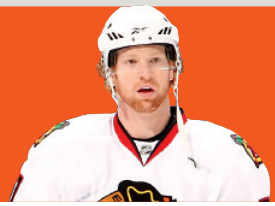
Aston Villa beats Wigan

England midfielder James Milner scored to give Aston Villa a 2-1 win over Wigan and increase his team's chances of finishing in the English Premier League top four. Villa stayed in seventh place but victory kept it within three points of Tottenham, which occupies the last Champions League spot, with a game in hand. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports



Campbell out 7-8 weeks

Chicago Blackhawks defenceman Brian Campbell, left, is expected to miss seven to eight weeks with collarbone and rib fractures suffered when he was hit from behind by Alex Ovechkin. Dr. Michael Terry, the head team physician for the Blackhawks, said in a statement yesterday that Campbell will likely avoid surgery and is expected to make a full recovery. THE CANADIAN PRESS

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

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YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Montreal 3 N.Y. Rangers 1
N.Y. Islanders 5 Vancouver 2
Toronto 4 Ottawa 1
Atlanta 4 Buffalo 3
Boston 5 Carolina 2
Phoenix 2 Tampa Bay 1
Washington 7 Florida 3
Minnesota 4 Edmonton 2
Colorado 5 St. Louis 3
Nashville 4 Philadelphia 3 (SO)
Dallas 8 San Jose 2

TODAY'S GAMES

Pittsburgh at New Jersey, 5 p.m.
CALGARY at Colorado, 7 p.m.
Chicago at Anaheim, 8 p.m.

NBA

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Atlanta 108 New Jersey 84
Cleveland 113 Detroit 101
Denver 97 Washington 87
Indiana 99 Charlotte 94
L.A. Lakers 106 Sacramento 99
Memphis 104 Chicago 97
Phoenix 152 Minnesota 114
San Antonio 88 Miami 76

TODAY'S GAMES

Atlanta at Toronto, 5 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Charlotte, 5 p.m.
Indiana at Cleveland, 5 p.m.
New Jersey at Philadelphia, 5 p.m.
New York at Boston, 5:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Orlando, 6 p.m.
Chicago at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.
Memphis at Houston, 7:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Utah, 7 p.m.
New Orleans at Golden State, 8:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at L.A. Clippers, 8:30 p.m.

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4. Shawn Tschritter	AB, CA	983	404	574	978
5. Christian Gagnon	NB, CA	935	390	583	973
6. Kyle Turk	NS, CA	991	411	556	967
7. Cole Warren	NS, CA	976	364	601	965
7. Dennis MacDougall	NS, CA	960	392	573	965
9. Bernie Horton	ON, CA	923	400	561	961
10. Blaine Schlechter	AB, CA	953	386	572	958
11. Myles Dennis	NS, CA	941	363	587	950
12. Feroz Mir	ON, CA	965	380	569	949
13. Grant Greenfield	AB, CA	949	418	529	947
14. Calvin Lewis	NS, CA	982	387	558	945
14. Shenif Dewshi	BC, CA	940	388	557	945

*Results exclude Quebec

markerzone.com metro

Give Langkow another shot

TheHockeyNews
Brian Costello
thehockeynews.com

JIM MCISAAC/GETTY IMAGES

Daymond Langkow of the Calgary Flames celebrates his goal against New Jersey with teammate Jarome Iginla on Dec 7, 2005.

I t'll be interesting to see how the 2009-10 Calgary Flames season is viewed in the future by team historians and hockey talk aficionados.

If the Flames miss the playoffs, the foremost hallmark of the team will be its inability to score goals. "Oh yes, that was the season the Flames couldn't hit the broad side of a barn," fans will remember. "The goalie, Kiprusoff, was phenomenal, runner-up for the Vezina I believe, but that wasn't enough to even get the team into the playoffs. They barely scored two goals a game."

Jarome Iginla was pretty good, people will remember, and was vital to Canada winning a gold medal at the Vancouver Olympics. But again, the Flames didn't give him a centre to play with.

So what of Matt Stajan, the latest centre who's not really meshing well with Iginla? Why is there no sustained chemistry between the two?

From what I've seen so far, Stajan isn't nearly talented enough or intense enough to polish visors for anyone on the top line. He has three goals and eight points in 14 games playing next to Iginla. That's just not good enough. I think I'd rather have Olli Jokinen. Even Matthew Lombardi.

Stajan is more responsible defensively than Jokinen, but hasn't shown any offensive creativity in Calgary. So if the skill isn't there, then the level of compete has to be absolute top shelf to warrant time on the top line. A hard-working family like the Sutters must become aghast when they watch Stajan simply blend into the woodwork.

Now in do or die time of the season, maybe it's time to make what's old new again. Didn't Daymond Langkow have a breakout 33-goal, 77-point season centring Iginla in 2006-07? And another 30-goal season the next year? And didn't the Flames sign him to a four-year, $18 million deal ($4.5 million average) because of that? So why is he producing like the checking line centre — three goals in his past 36 games.

Put Langkow back with Iginla and see if the magic comes back. They were reunited a few games mid-season, but were broken up too quickly. Langkow hasn't been the same offensively since getting his bell rung in a huge way by Washington's Tyler Sloan early last season.

Now, with few cards left in the deck, it's worth a final shot.

The Hockey News thn.com

Woods says he will return for Masters

GOLF For Tiger Woods, this figures to be a Masters like no other.

Woods said yesterday that he will end more than four months of seclusion and play at Augusta National in three weeks, shielded by the most secure environment in golf as he competes for the first time since a sex scandal shattered his image.

"The Masters is where I won my first major and I view this tournament with great respect," Woods said in a statement. "After a long and necessary time away from the game, I feel like I'm ready to start my season at Augusta."

The Masters begins April 8.

Tiger Woods

No other major championship attracts such a large television audience, and that's under normal circumstances.

Already the most popular figure in golf with his 82 worldwide victories and 14 majors — four of them at the Masters — Woods returns as a disgraced star who will be under the greatest scrutiny of his career.

"We're all looking forward to having him back. We want him playing," Jim Furyk said. "I'm sure we're also looking forward to everything being business as usual. And it's going to take awhile. We know that."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports in brief

PARALYMPICS After losing for the first time in Monday's evening draw, Canada's wheelchair curling team got back to winning ways yesterday by thrashing Switzerland 15-1.

BASKETBALL Arkansas-Pine Bluff Golden Lions beat Winthrop 61-44 in the NCAA tournament's opening game.

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Former St. Clair student claims college did little to stop bullying

A former student at St. Clair College's Thames campus in Chatham has filed a human rights complaint against the college over alleged bullying. The student, who dropped out before last Christmas, says she feels the college did not do enough to stop the harassment she claims she was subjected to. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

Student suing over expulsion

According to the Montreal Gazette, a Concordia University engineering student has gone to court to overturn the university's decision to expel him for allegedly forging a professor's signature to sign out a piece of equipment for a class project. The student has asked the Quebec Superior Court for a safeguard order to temporarily halt the expulsion in order for him to complete his courses and graduate. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

The evolving engineer's career

In an industry that touches all walks of life much has changed a lot in recent years

Engineering **the Future**

Metro Workology is focusing on careers and education in the engineering sector for the month of March to celebrate National Engineering Month. Check back every Wednesday.

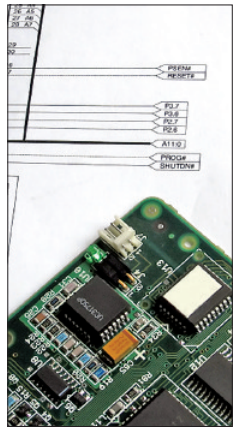
JON TATTRIE
for Metro Canada

From the pyramids of Egypt to Parliament Hill in Ottawa, the history of engineering tells the history of humanity.

Marie Carter, Engineers Canada's chief operating officer, said engineering only became a modern profession in the last century. It was born out of disaster, when a bridge built to cross the Saint Lawrence River collapsed in 1907. An engineering mistake was to blame and it cost the lives of 75 people. An incident in 1916 claimed more lives.

"The Canadian Society of Civil Engineers determined, 'We need to do something about this,'" Carter said from her Ottawa office. "'We need to have some checks and balances on who does engineering. They need to be properly trained.'"

Throughout the 1920s, engineering became increasingly regulated and the tradition of the Iron Ring was born. Originally built from the ruins of the Quebec bridge and now fashioned from stainless steel, each Canadian engineering student is presented a ring in a somber ceremony accompanying graduation.



Engineering has changed a lot over the years, from the pyramids, to steam locomotive, to computer engineering.

Carter said scientific "trial and error" steadily improved the building blocks engineers use to build our world ever since.

"Just about everything that you see, do, touch, have as recreation, live with, use to eat, even the food, has got engineering involved in it," she said. "Engineers do touch just about every aspect of the way we live."

Allan Marble has seen the discipline transformed in his 50-plus years as an engineer, but it's not hard for the professor emeritus at Halifax's Dalhousie University to sum up what changed: The computer.

When Marble attended Dalhousie in the 1950s, it was a computer-free land. He vividly remembers the first time he saw a computer in 1962. It was primordial and clunky, but it revolutionized engineering.

In today's wired world, it seems hard to imagine slide rulers doing the job of computers, and that's because they didn't.

"It's an amazing change, really," Marble said over the phone from his Halifax home, adding that it's especially transformed electrical engineering.

"You're trying to analyze signals coming from various sources," he explains. "To do that before the computer, you had to do it by hand."

Computers made it possible for engineers to develop life-saving CT scanners and MRIs. "The amount of calculations done to get a CT image or an MRI image is just mind-boggling. Those things could never be done before the computer."

Back to their lairs

Dragons' **Den**

Dianne Buckner

metronews.ca/dragonsden

What does it take to climb the corporate ladder right to the top? Wouldn't you love to know how to make the move from working stiff, to fabulously wealthy mogul?

That is the subject of The Road to Riches, the season finale of Dragons' Den tonight. The program tells the life stories of all five Dragons, none of whom were born into money, but who all found a way to parlay their abilities into huge business success.

There are a lot of revelations in the show: Who knew Kevin O'Leary looked like such a bad boy teenager, with long hair and a haze of smoke around him in every shot! Brett Wilson is unbelievably open, sharing deeply personal stories. There's an emotional scene where it's clear Robert Herjavec's heart is still aching over his mother's death.

We also get to visit with Arlene Dickinson and her four children at her sunny, southern getaway, and meet the partner who helped Jim Treliving along his journey from RCMP officer to savvy business-man.

What struck me most though is how hard every one of them worked. Consider Jim's experience at his first Boston Pizza franchise.

"I cooked, I did the prep in the morning, did all the stuff to get ready for opening," he says. "And then I cut pizza. After we closed at three in the morning I'd scrub the floor." He says he didn't have a day off for two-and-a-half years!

No wonder he enjoys his condo in Vancouver so much, along with the many trips he takes by private jet.

But there's more to it all than money, of course. Brett shares what he told his son. "I really want you to think about success as happiness. And if your needs are many, you may never be happy. But if your needs are few you might always be happy."

Dianne Buckner is the weekend anchor on CBC News Network and host of Dragons' Den. The season finale airs tonight at 8 p.m. on CBC Television. Auditions for next season are underway. Check cbc.ca/dragonsden for details.

Ford building new cop car
Ford has revealed its all-new, purpose-built Police Interceptor sedan, showcasing a car for law enforcement that will exceed the durability, safety, performance and fuel economy of the Ford Crown Victoria. The Ontario-built Crown Victoria Police Interceptor will finish production in 2011. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Metro Drive

Cool Carbon
General Motors has announced the 2011 Corvette Z06 Carbon Limited Edition, which will go on sale this summer.
METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

Volt charges ahead

GM delivers on electric car promise

JIL MCINTOSH
for Metro Canada

While there's still more than a year to go before its scheduled launch, Chevrolet's Volt is getting closer. From a concept unveiled in early 2007, it's now a model that starts, stops and drives – and I got the chance to do that in Vancouver.

I went less than 20 kilometres at low speeds, but notably, it was what automakers call an "integration vehicle," the first time the technology and design have come together. This isn't exactly what will go on sale, but final changes will probably be minor.

While it has a gasoline engine, electric motor and lithium-ion battery, Volt isn't a hybrid.

Rather, it's an extended-range vehicle that always uses electricity to power the wheels. After it's recharged by plugging into a wall outlet, it travels about 64 km.

Once the battery runs down, a 1.4-litre gasoline engine starts up and acts like a generator to supply more electricity.

That's a major difference from an all-electric car, which won't travel any further once its battery is depleted.

Volt was designed to the 64-km threshold because, as GM says, 75 per cent of Canadians drive less than that each day. In theory, many Volt owners will never burn any gasoline, other than the occasional start-up programmed into the engine to keep its fluids flowing.

Driving it is unremarkable, and I mean that as a compliment.

It doesn't feel much different than a conventional car, which should appeal to many buyers: No learning curve, no unusual requirements, and nothing unfamiliar. Press a button, put the shifter into drive, and put your foot on the accelerator pedal.

It feels peppy, and has a "Sport" button that adds a turbo-like power boost for hills and highway passing. Regenerative braking and deceleration put some charge back into the battery.

2011 Chevrolet Volt

Type: Extended-range electric sedan
Price: NA
Engine: Battery/1.4L gasoline

Highlights

- Drives like a normal sedan; no learning curve
- Sport button adds turbo-like boost

While the Chevy Volt has a gasoline engine, electric motor and lithium-ion battery, Volt isn't a hybrid. Rather, it's an extended-range vehicle that always uses electricity to power the wheels.

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Hyundai leads in brand loyalty: Kelley Blue Book
Brand loyalty for Hyundai has surpassed that of Honda and Toyota, taking the number one spot among car shoppers, according to Kelley Blue Book. In addition, Hyundai values have been outperforming the car segment average. CANADIANDRIVER.COM

Smartphone way to buy used

A wise sage once opined that, "Knowledge is Power." This prompted another sage to suggest that such power is best used to make other people feel stupid.

True enough.

But perhaps you're in the market for a used car. In that case, you're probably more interested in obtaining knowledge, to transform yourself into a powerful super hero, one able to leap into a great used vehicle, at a really great price, all in a single bound.

We now have a new Canadian company, vehiclegateway.com, to help us bulk up on used-vehicle expertise and muscle — and through our cellphones no less.

But company spokesperson, Peter Davies, told me not to think of it as an app.

"In my opinion it's superior to an app," said Davies. "It requires no downloading. All you have to do is go to vehiclegateway.com on your Blackberry, iPhone, or any phone with browser capability, and you are presented with a 'mobile' version of the site."

Vehiclegateway.com is similar to sites like AutoTrader and Autonet, which offer lots of vehicles for sale, from both dealers and private sellers.

But vehiclegateway.com will differentiate itself from the pack, says Davies, by being the first to combine several crucial elements, such as: cellphone accessibility; free listings for private sellers; an increased level of information on each specific vehicle; a special section devoted to vehicles that fall under the automakers' certified programs; and the first used Canadian used-vehicle site to offer a link to obtain vehicle history reports from CARFAX.

The cellphone access will purportedly help your negotiating position. Davies tells me to picture myself on a used car lot, contemplating a nice shiny ride. How do I know if the price is fair? By punching the year and model of the vehicle into vehiclegateway.com, and asking it to generate an "average price" for all such vehicles currently listed there.

It's up to you then, whether you shove the cellphone screen into the seller's face, or sign the papers.

While sites like Kijiji and Craigslist also offer free listings for private sellers, Davies notes they are not geared specifically for automotive buyers, and both have their share of unscrupulous sellers.

"People are scared of buying a lemon," adds Davies. He hopes his site "will help remove some of the apprehension associated with buying used."

It will do that, according to Davies, by asking sellers to fill out a detailed vehicle questionnaire on each vehicle listed.

While sellers are still on the honour system, Davies believes it should weed out sellers who are prone to hyperbole, and allow buyers to narrow their search.

Another apprehension squasher will be the CARFAX vehicle history reports (available for an extra fee).

Like CarProof.com, it can reveal how many times the vehicle has changed hands and when, where it's been licensed, and if it has incurred any insurance claims for accident damage.

Vehiclegateway.com offers a mobile website that allows users to browse through pre-owned cars on the go.

"How do I know if the price is fair? By punching the year and model of the vehicle into vehiclegateway.com, and asking it to generate an "average price" for all such vehicles currently listed there. "

All this information technology is wonderful, but I would still caution that buyers get a trust-worthy mechanic to get all touchy-feely with any used vehicle they're ready to pounce on.

Any used vehicle will need work. The extent of work needed is what you want to establish — it's your super-human right to know.

Michael Goetz has been writing about cars and editing automotive publications for over 20 years. He lives in Toronto with his family and a neglected 1967 Jaguar E-type.

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Hemingway home designated landmark

Ernest Hemingway's Key West home, where the American author lived in the 1930s, has been designated a literary landmark. It has become a museum honouring the Pulitzer and Nobel prize-winning author in 1964. hemingwayhome.com. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Travel

Heading to the World Cup?

Thinking about heading to this year's World Cup in South Africa? Consider picking up a Footprint travel guide for any of the major cities. The pocket sized package has the most up-to-date information about the city, its surroundings and is packed with ideas for making the most of the time available. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: BEN.RYCROFT@METRONEWS.CA

Victoria Falls takes you to the edge

Flying over Africa in a flimsy microlight plane will thrill even the hardened adrenalin junkie

NICK BOULOS
Metro World News

There are many ways to experience Africa's mighty Victoria Falls, which sit between Zimbabwe and Zambia but a microlight flight is undoubtedly the most thrilling.

As a result these flimsy aircraft circle the falls like vultures over a kill.

The jubilant faces returning from the air did nothing to calm my nerves as I climbed into the muddle of wing and wire and pulled my seatbelt tightly. It was, after all, the only thing stopping me from plummeting 1,000 feet.

There's no hiding from the elements in a microlight. With no doors, windows or even a windscreen and only a handrail to grip, it's just you, the wind and the scenery.

The bright blue hang gliding wings reached out above me while the small engine behind me hummed away.

"Ready?" asked my pilot Pascal as he turned around to face me.

As I considered my response, the wheels started rolling.

The microlight rumbled down the short muddy runway and we were airborne.

Heart racing, I stole an immediate glance beyond where my feet now dangled freely. Huge clusters of acacia trees blurred into the forest green landscape and a lone giraffe grazed as we circled to gain altitude.

Soon we were hundreds of feet over the murky Zambezi River as it flowed towards the waterfalls where a million litres of water plunge over the 103m drop every second spewing spray high into the air.

The 1.7km wide falls — known locally as Mosi-oa-Tunya (The Smoke That Thunders) — were discovered in 1855 by Scottish explorer David Livingstone, who named them after the reigning British monarch.

Now at our maximum altitude Pascal banked the microlight sharply for one more loop. We glided straight into the plume of spray directly above the falls. Greyness closed in at every angle and fine droplets settled on my visor.

The ride was over before it began.

Pascal landed the microlight with a bump and tug of the handlebar.

A smile spread across my face as we rolled down runway as the next passenger waited nervously.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Africa's Victoria Falls sport a 103 m drop off, where a million litres of water passes over it everyday.

$2,000

Two nights on Sindabezi Island in Zambia on an all-inclusive basis and return flights from Johannesburg costs under $2,000 with To Escape To (toescapeto.com)

Microlight flights over the falls are available for $150.

Adrenalin junkie?

Our pick of the best white knuckle activities at Victoria Falls....

1 A white water ride: Whether it's one or several days spent tackling the terrifying Grade 5+ rapids of the Zambezi, one of the world's most challenging white water rivers, this will easily satisfy a thirst for adventure. Trips are sometimes suspended between March and May when water levels are too high. Hold on tight.

2 3, 2, 1 ... Bungee!: Plummet towards the Zambezi by throwing yourself off the 111m high Victoria Falls Bridge, which was built in 1905 and links Zambia to Zimbabwe. Choose between a solo jump, tandem bungee or the Bridge Swing or do all three for the knockdown price of $50.

3 Take a dip: Enjoy the most memorable swim of your life at the very edge of the falls. Visit Livingstone Island between September and December and the low water level make it possible to splash around in Devil's Pool, just inches from the perilous drop. Vertigo sufferers need not apply.

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*Trade-mark of The Toronto-Dominion Bank.

See Huck Finn's roots
On the centenary of the author's death, Mark Twain fans will swarm Hannibal, Mo., the river town of his boyhood that inspired a raft of literary gems, and Hartford, Conn. marktwaincountry.com. METRO NEWS SERVICES

5 festival destinations

Where to see shows across the globe this summer

ROMINA MCGUINNESS
Metro World News

If Canadian Music Week left you wanting more this year, consider festival hopping this summer.

Metro found five summer music festivals to leave you satisfied.

METRO WORLD NEWS

U2 is expected to headline at Glastonbury this summer.

1 COACHELLA
California, USA

The epitome of hippie chic, the Coachella festival near Palm Springs, is two days of sunshine, sustainabilty and sound. Carpooling is advised and camping is the way forward. Rock up in your RV, pitch a tent or book one of the few luxury safari tents that come with air conditioning, a couch and a golf buggy to get you to and from the stages.

2010 dates
April 16-18

Expected Line Up
David Guetta, Jay-Z, Charlotte Gainsbourg, Corinne Bailey Rae, Gorillaz, Vampire Weekend, Gossip, The Dead Weather Phoenix

How do I get there?
Palm Springs International Airport and then renting a car/carpooling
(coachella.com)

2 ROCK IN RIO
Lisbon

Rotating between Rio, Madrid, and Lisbon, 2010 takes you to the latter. Held in Lisbon's Bela Vista Park, it's mainly the special stages you should be on the lookout for here. Head to the sunset or electronic stage and make sure you attend at least one of the improvised jam session.

2010 dates
May 21-27

Expected Line Up
Miley Cyrus and John Mayer

How do I get there?
Bela Vista Park is a mere 15-minute walk from Lisbon airport.
(rockinrio-lisboa.sapo.pt)

3 GLASTONBURY
United Kingdom

Possible the most star studded festival, "Glasto" is as much of a fashion and scenester spot as it is music music. Kate Moss, Lily Allen, Jay-Z and Alexa Chung are regulars and although that time of year is often plagued by rainy spells, a good raincoat and a sturdy pair of plastic boots on your feet is all you need.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Miley Cyrus will perform at Rock in Rio this year.

2010 dates
June 23-27

Expected Line Up
U2, Stevie Wonder, Jack Johnson, Muse

How do I get there?
Bristol International Airport is best (glastonburyfestivals.co.uk

METRO WORLD NEWS

Coachella in California is this year's hippie chic festival.

4 ROSKILDE
Denmark

The Nordic festival is not only a non-profit organization (all profits go to a designated cause) there's also free camping along with your ticket purchase. Go to the website to suggest or apply some of the festival's green tips.

What's more is the food stalls mainly sell local and organic produce.

2010 dates
July 1-4

Expected Line Up
Jack Johnson, Muse

How do I get there?
You are 35 km from Copenhagen
(roskilde-festival.dk)

5 BENICASSIM
Spain

Wedged between Barcelona and Valencia is Costa de Azaha, whose prisitine beaches turn into the dance floors of Spain's biggest festivals. More of an excuse to soak up the sun and swim in the sea, Benicassim's amazing nightlife has led it to gain a reputation as the wild child of summer festivals.

2010 dates
July 15-18

Expected Line Up
The Prodigy, Kaabian, Dizzee Rascal

How do I get there?
Valencia airport is about one hour away
(benicassim2010.com)

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Real American hero

Ryan Phillippe is in talks to play Captain America. The star confirmed he is to audition for the lead role in forthcoming superhero movie The First Avenger: Captain America and is hoping to land the role of the crime fighter and his alter ego Steve Rogers. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Entertainment

Star Search

Paula Abdul was once the queen of American Idol. Soon, she may be the competition. Abdul is finalizing a deal to help ABC launch a new version of Star Search, the classic TV talent contest. PEOPLE.COM

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Run for the money

Aniston and Butler hook up in The Bounty Hunter

RICHARD CROUSE
for Metro Canada

In The Bounty Hunter, Jennifer Aniston and Gerard Butler work on the borders of their comfort zones. Butler is the titular character, a former cop so down on his luck he takes a gig tracking down his ex-wife (and alleged real-life girlfriend) Aniston, for a payday of $5,000.

"I felt this was a different role for her," says Butler of his co-star. "She is the Queen of Comedy and done a lot of romantic comedies, but this doesn't feel like a romantic comedy. It feels like an action driven comedy. She was playing a much bitchier, hard edged character than I think anyone has ever seen her do before and for me that is exciting."

The Bounty Hunter opens this Friday

Aniston, best known as Rachel from Friends, or Brad Pitt's ex wife, depending on your appetite for the tabloids, says she was attracted to the role because "it wasn't your traditional run of the mill girl meets guy, guy meets girl."

"It is an action comedy and a road movie with a little romance in there and a little suspense," she said recently in a sit-down with Metro in New York City.

She was, however, taken by surprise by the physical demands of the production. Doing stunts in four inch heels isn't as easy as it looks.

"Your adrenaline is going and you're not really feeling it at the moment and then I'd get home and notice a bruise here and a callous here," said Aniston, who adds she would consider other action roles in future. "Then there were the handcuffs. Try wearing those, attached to a car door for three days. Not fun."

For Butler, a Scottish heartthrob best known for his sculpted abs and roles in violent films like 300, the challenge wasn't the physical side, but breaking the action star stereotype.

"My break in America was Attila the Hun, which went into Time Line, Tomb Raider, Reign of Fire and at that point I loved doing that, but it's not like when you are still making your way in the business that people go, 'Tomb Raider, Oh my God, the guy should be in a comedy.' I was waiting for the right opportunity. I thought I don't want to dive in with something crappy. I wanted to wait until I'm lucky enough to get the right script that felt right."

Gerard Butler and Jennifer Aniston in a scene from the upcoming movie The Bounty Hunter.

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Mourners arrive in Toronto for the funeral of Corey Haim.

Mourners remember teen star Corey Haim

Fallen teen icon Corey Haim was remembered with tears and laughter yesterday as hundreds of friends, relatives and fans gathered at a funeral home to honour a troubled former heartthrob whose films helped define a generation.

Stone-faced relatives held each other as they filed into the private ceremony, while small groups of fans lingered on the outskirts of the property.

Dan Pigeau said he, his wife and a friend drove about an hour from Oshawa, Ont., to pay their respects, even though none had ever met the star of '80s hits including Lucas, The Lost Boys and License to Drive.

"Some people might say it's a little silly, you didn't know the person," said Pigeau.

"It doesn't matter. You watch the person's movies, you watch the person's TV shows, you listen to a person's music and it becomes a part of your life. To me, it's kind of like a part of my childhood died. At 31, I still watch the guy's movies. I still love 'The Lost Boys'."

The Toronto-born Haim died in a Los Angeles-area hospital last week after suffering flu-like symptoms that included an enlarged heart and water in his lungs. He was 38.

In recent years Haim spoke openly about a lengthy battle with drug addiction, but it is not known what role it may have played in his death.

Substance abuse dogged the baby-faced actor for much of his life, with Haim telling a U.K. tabloid in 2004 that it began soon after he gained pin-up status as a teenager. Repeated attempts to return to the spotlight included a short-lived reality show on A&E called The Two Coreys, in which he starred with friend and The Lost Boys co-star Corey Feldman.

Distant relative Maytal Kotler said Haim's darker times weren't a part of yesterday's memorial, which focused on stories about his sweet nature.

"Only good things, of course," said Kotler, estimating that several hundred mourners filled the chapel. "(People talked about how) he was a good soul and a very fun-loving guy, (with a) big heart, a good person overall. And he's always going to be remembered for that."

She said the service included speeches from Haim's best friend, an aunt and a cousin.

"It was very touching," said Kotler, who described herself as a cousin's cousin but didn't grow up with Haim. "There was some laughter, a lot of crying."

Friend Heather Leikam, 31, a former neighbour who met Haim in 2001, said before the memorial that his mother Judy has been a "pillar" of strength.

Leikam remembered Haim as a friendly soul who spoke openly about his problems.

"He made nothing secret but he also didn't have anything to apologize for," Leikam said.

"When I met him he was living very modestly. One of the first times I hung out we went for a walk. What kind of guy asks you to go for a walk? I thought that was sweetest thing I'd ever heard." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Corey Haim

"You watch the person's movies ... and it becomes a part of your life. To me, it's kind of like a part of my childhood died."
Dan Pigeau

Sheen back at it ... kinda

The Two and a Half Men star Charlie Sheen returned to the set of the show yesterday — but will still spend nights in rehab — following his not-guilty plea Monday on domestic violence charges. **PEOPLE.COM**

Hall of Fame selects new singing stars

MUSIC An English band steeped in harmony, a reggae pioneer, progressive rockers who thrived despite a defection, four Swedes who combined their nation's traditions with their rock heroes and a man who prowled a ballroom floor singing "Wanna Be Your Dog" wouldn't seem to have much in common.

For a night they did, as The Hollies, Jimmy Cliff, Genesis, ABBA and Iggy Pop's Stooges accepted induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame on Monday — a ceremony almost as notable for who wasn't there as who was.

ABBA sold some 100 million records with hits such as Waterloo, Dancing Queen and Knowing Me, Knowing You before disbanding in 1982.

GETTY IMAGES

Phil Collins

Benny Andersson and ex-wife Anni-Frid Lyngstad attended the ceremony at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel. Agnetha Faltskog, who has a fear of flying, and Bjorn Ulvaeus, who had a family commitment, did not.

"I'm very angry that Madonna got in before us," Lyngstad joked.

Genesis had two distinct incarnations. They were a fixture of Britain's progressive rock scene in the 1970s, known as much for lead singer Peter Gabriel's theatricality as the music. When Gabriel quit, the band put drummer Phil Collins in front of the microphone and they became regulars on the pop charts.

"Phil's drums were the only thing that could hold those disparate elements together," Phish singer and childhood Genesis fan Trey Anastasio said. "He always seemed to be aware that the song came first."

Mike Rutherford said Gabriel sent his apologies, but was unable to attend as he was preparing for a tour.

"We've played without him for 30 years," said Collins backstage. "We're used to not having him around."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AP PHOTO/JACK PLUNKETT

Sisters Martie Maguire and Emily Robison debut their new band Court Yard Hounds at SXSW

Sisters swing into SXSW

Even though the Court Yard Hounds are a new group, they are hardly your typical baby act.

The duo is derived from one of music's best-selling bands — the Dixie Chicks — and their self-titled debut album is already among the spring's more anticipated releases.

Yet sisters Martie Maguire and Emily Robison are finding themselves working much like every other fledgling group, as they try to establish an identity that will shine despite the oversized shadow cast by the Grammy-winning, multiplatinum Chicks.

"Sometimes, when our manager calls me and says certain things, we go, 'Oh God, we've gotta do that?'" says Maguire with a laugh.

"(But) some of the starting over is actually fun. We missed it along the way. When I look back at some of the Chicks' stuff, it's the early stuff we did where we kind of giggle and go, 'You know what? Those were the good old days,'" she adds. "We're feeling kind of those butterflies in our stomach once again."

The butterflies will be present on Thursday, when they make their stage debut at the South by Southwest music festival (SXSW) in Austin, Texas — an industry showcase for nearly 2,000 acts, from eclectic, esoteric bands to legends.

Among the expected highlights of the festival, which runs from Thursday to Sunday, are performances from Spoon, the Stone Temple Pilots, Estelle, Fall Out Boy's Patrick Stump, and Smokey Robinson.

"(SXSW) turned into such a great springboard for music and so many influential people come and listen to music."

Emily Robison

Maguire and Robison decided to unveil their new group at SXSW, at the intimate club Antone's, for all the reasons most artists come to SXSW.

"It's turned into such a great springboard for music and so many influential people come and listen to music," said Robison.

But it's also home for the two sisters, who are from Texas; Robison lives in San Antonio, while Maguire lives right in Austin.

"It feels really comfortable having the first (show) where I live, in a club where I go hear bands," she says. "So many times I've gone to hear bands and thought, 'Oh, I can't wait to be on that stage.'"

SXSW will mark the first time they will be centre stage since the Dixie Chicks took off more than a decade ago, when it was Natalie Maines singing lead, flanked by Robison and Maguire playing their string instruments, usually banjo and fiddle. With the Court Yard Hounds, Robison will be singing lead.

While the Chicks haven't broken up, they haven't made any new music since their Grammy winning 2006 album, Taking the Long Way. Both Maguire and Robison grew restless, and after Robison penned several new songs after her divorce, they decided to form a new group while the Chicks remained on hiatus.

"We have the ability to go off and do the stuff for the Court Yard Hounds and really fulfill that part of what drives us and not feel like we have to pressure Natalie to be working if she doesn't want to work," says Robison.

The sisters aren't sure when Maines will return to the Dixie Chicks, but they do have her blessing.

"With the Chicks, to leave the house, it's just a big undertaking," Robison said. "It's kind of like we recreated this monster, and it's a beautiful monster at times. But it's harder to activate. This time, it's a little bit more . . . "

"Mobile!" interjects Maguire, as they both laugh.

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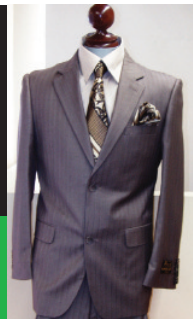
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Morose meditations

TV's sci-fi drama FlashForward offers a glimpse of Americanism

PHOTO COURTESY OF ABC

Actors Courtney B. Vance, and Joseph Fiennes, right, in a scene from FlashForward, which is back on air after a three-month hiatus.

The Americans who populate the ABC series FlashForward are, on balance, a morose lot.

And justifiably so: They are paralyzed by their 137-second visions of the future, part of a weird global bout of unconsciousness in which all humans see glimpses of their lives at the same moment six months onward.

The main character, recovering alcoholic FBI agent Mark Benford (Joseph Fiennes), sees a tomorrow in which he's drinking again and pursued by killers. His wife, Dr. Olivia Benford (Sonya Walger), sees herself intimate with another man — a potentially dangerous man. Benford's partner, Demetri Noh (John Cho), is haunted by his complete lack of a vision — and his certainty that the blackness means he's going to die.

ABC's FlashForward returns on Thursday

And from Nicole Kirby (Peyton List), a 19-year-old struggling with what she saw in her flash-forward, comes this intriguing bit of pretzel logic: "How do I atone for something I haven't done yet?"

For FlashForward,which returns Thursday (8 p.m. EDT) after a three-month hiatus, all of this is not merely science fiction, though it fits nicely into the crop of weird-twists-on-reality programming in recent years — Lost, Fringe and Life on Mars among the offerings.

With its meditations on inevitability, this show taps into something far more fundamental about the American character: the ability to shape our tomorrows. (The series is based, somewhat loosely, on the 1999 novel FlashForward by Ottawa-born science fiction writer Robert J. Sawyer).

America started, for the most part, with a group of people — the Massachusetts Puritans — who believed that no matter what they did in this world, they were predestined to a certain lot in the afterlife. In short, though good behaviour was required, the activities of life weren't worth much in the context of eternity.

But that quickly became the antithesis of what America was all about. This quickly became a society whose hallmark was the ability to write your own story, to shape what came next for you and yours. People came here to build new lives, to construct new destinies — to change the outcome.

With the Declaration of Independence, it actually became national policy — for what was a right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, but a society-wide assertion that the future is ours to be written?

Which is why, perhaps, FlashForward is so deeply unsettling. It masquerades as a locked-room mystery with sci-fi undertones. But in reality, it's a meditation on Americanism — a story that tells Americans they cannot control the outcome. And that's not something modern Americans are accustomed to hearing.

The show's producers are clearly aware of this tension. Every moment is suffused with a sense of helplessness. Usually in modern television drama, people are trying to surmount the improbable or, sometimes, the impossible. Rarely is an entire show's ensemble cast dedicated to overcoming the inevitable.

This is what FlashForward hinges upon. While the sci-fi is rollicking, though at times muddled, what's most striking is the sheer smallness of the human beings trying to figure this out. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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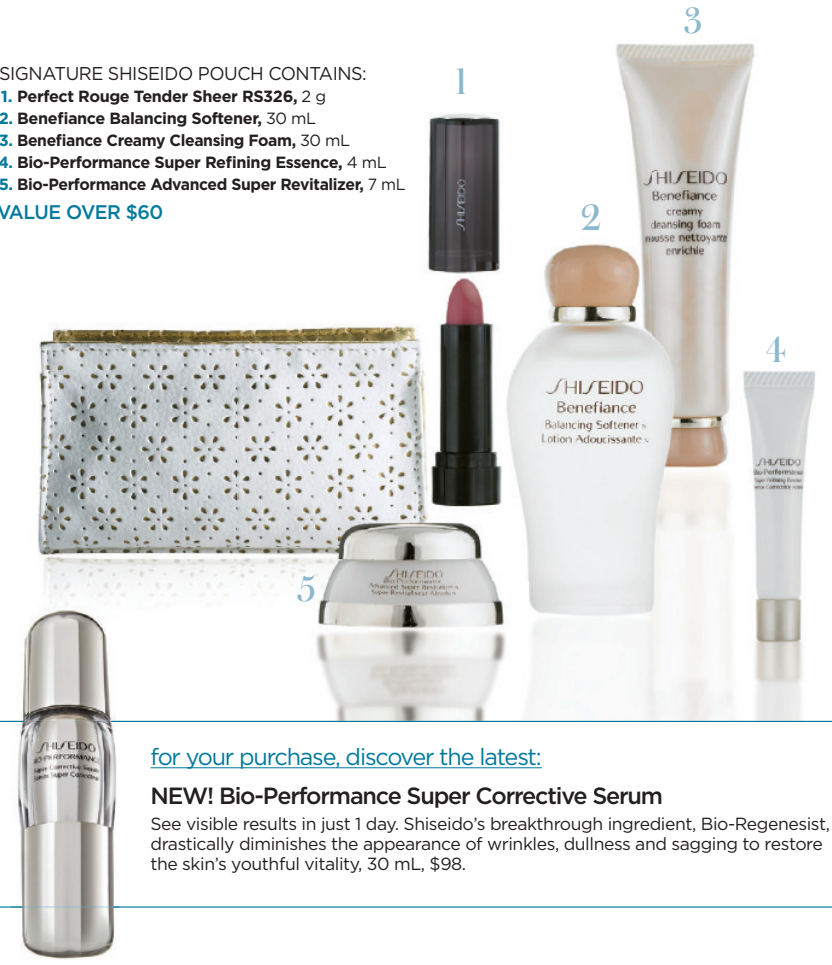

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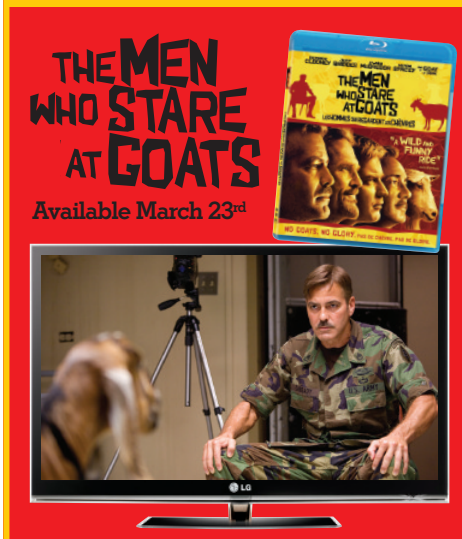

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Record-breaking deal

Jackson's $200 million recording contract

The estate of Michael Jackson has landed the late King of Pop the biggest recording deal in history: a $200 million guaranteed contract with Sony Music Entertainment for 10 projects over seven years, according to a person familiar with the deal.

The record-breaking contract through 2017 could be worth up to $250 million if certain conditions are met. One of the albums will be of never-before-released Jackson recordings that will come out in November, the person said.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the official announcement is expected Tuesday.

Future projects may also include a DVD compilation of videos and a re-release of Off the Wall, Jackson's fifth studio album, which first came out in 1979, accompanied by some unreleased material. Before his sudden death in June at age 50, the pop star had wanted to re-issue the album, people familiar with the deal said.

"This agreement with Sony Music demonstrates the lasting power of Michael's music by exceeding all previous industry benchmarks."

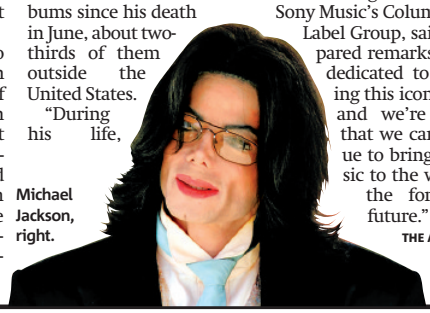
John Branca, co-administrator of Jackson estate

One of the projects already counted in the contract was the two-disc album that accompanied This Is It, the film based on footage of concert rehearsals for what was to have been Jackson's comeback at London's O2 arena.

Including the more than five million copies of that special release, Jackson has sold some 31 million albums since his death in June, about two-thirds of them outside the United States.

"During his life, Michael's contracts set the standard for the industry," said John Branca, the co-administrator of the Jackson estate, in a statement prepared for release Tuesday. "By all objective criteria, this agreement with Sony Music demonstrates the lasting power of Michael's music by exceeding all previous industry benchmarks."

Rob Stringer, chairman of Sony Music's Columbia Epic Label Group, said in prepared remarks, "We're dedicated to protecting this icon's legacy and we're thrilled that we can continue to bring his music to the world for the foreseeable future."



Michael Jackson, right.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Winfrey to defend defamation

Oprah Winfrey

LEGAL A federal judge says Oprah Winfrey must defend a defamation suit filed by the former headmistress of her girls' school in South Africa.

The case is now set for trial March 29 in Philadelphia.

Judge Eduardo Robreno refused to dismiss the suit in a decision Monday.

He says former headmistress Nomvuyo Mzamane has enough evidence to pursue claims Winfrey defamed her. Winfrey made the remarks in 2007 after sex-abuse complaints surfaced at her school for poor girls near Johannesburg.

A dorm matron who worked under Mzamane was charged with abusing students.

Winfrey's lawyer, William Hangley, declined comment Tuesday on the decision.

Mzamane's lawyer did not immediately return a call for comment.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CA	Vu	SC		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
3/17/10 primetime	267	351	- ACCESS	Alberta Primetime (Live)		The Listener (DVS)		America's Next Top Model "Dreckitude!"		Look-A-Like		Primetime
	243	317	3 CFCN	etalk	Access H.	CSI: NY (HDTV)		Criminal Minds (N)		American Idol (HDTV)		CTV News
	-	-	4 OMNI	King/Queens	The Simpsons	Omni News: S. Asian Edition		Omni News: Cantonese Edition		Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Metropia
	-	371	5 KXLY	4 News at 6	4 News at 6:30	Entertainment	The Insider (N)	Scrubs	The Middle	Modern Family	Cougar Town	Ugly Betty (N)
	245	306	6 CBRT	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dragons' Den (N)		Republic of Doyle (DVS)		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	244	338	7 CICT	ET Canada	Entertainment	Melrose Place (N)		Bones		Kitchen Nightmares		News Hour
	246	-	8 CKAL	Law & Order: Special Victims		Ugly Betty (HDTV) (N)		Mercy (HDTV) (N)		Modern Family	Cougar Town	EP Daily
	119	705	9 CBXFT	Virginie (SC)	L'Épicerie	Le Moment de vérité (N) (SC)		Tous pour un (HDTV) (N) (SC)		Le Téléjournal Nouvelles. (SC)		TJ Alberta
	-	-	10 SHAW	(6) Local Programming						Local Programming		
	-	372	12 KREM	News	Access H.	The Doctors (N)		Bulldog Mad.	Unmarried	Criminal Minds (HDTV)		CSI: NY
	-	374	14 KSPS	PBS NewsHour (N)		When Irish Eyes Are Smiling: Irish		Music of Ireland --	Welcome Home			Absolutely
	502	390	15 CBC	CBC News: The National		Geologic Journey Hurricanes.		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		Geo. Journey
	-	370	16 KHQ	News (N)	Millionaire	Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel Fortune	Mercy (HDTV) (N)		Law & Order: Special Victims		Law & Order
	-	373	22 KAYU	The Office	Raymond	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Human Target "Baptiste"		American Idol (HDTV)		News
	297	652	37 WPIX	Top Model	High Society	PIX News at Ten Tong.		Two/Half Men	Friends	Friends	According-Jim	Family Guy
news	500	500	29 CNN	Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)				Larry King Live		Cooper 360
	508	502	31 CNN2	The Joy Behar Show		Nancy Grace		Showbiz Tonight		The Joy Behar Show		Nancy Grace
sports	400	400	21 TSN	NHL Hockey Calgary Flames at Colorado Avalanche. (HDTV) (Live)					SportsCentre		Motoring 2010	SnowTrax
	408	418	27 net	The Rookies	UEFA Champions League Soccer Bordeaux vs. Olympiacos. (HDTV)					Sportsnet Connected (N)		Ult. Fighter
	410	403	30 SCORE	Poker Tour	WWE Vintage Collection		Score Now Sports news and highlights.			Score Now		Score Now
	411	457	44 OLN	Oper. Repo	Oper. Repo	Ghost Hunters Academy		Destination Truth		Oper. Repo	Oper. Repo	Ghost Hunters
	417	406	48 SPEED	Dangerous Drives (HDTV) (N)		Pass Time (N)	Pass Time (N)	Pass Time	NASCAR Hub	Racing Chef	NASCAR	Danger-Drives
family	552	543	20 YTV	iCarly	To Be Indie	iCarly	That's-Weird	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Simple Rules	What I Like	Family Biz
	557	541	39 FAM	Sonny Chance	The Suite Life on Deck		Suite Life	Sonny Chance	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School
	555	545	67 TOON	Johnny Test	Johnny Test	*Arthur and the Invisibles* ★★ (2006, Fantasy)				Futurama	King of the Hill	American Dad
cable variety	575	583	11 CMT	According-Jim	According-Jim	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Due South		Amer. Funniest Home Videos		Reba
	553	546	17 TREE	Franklin	Bucket-Dinos	Little Bear	Toopy & Binoo	Max & Ruby	Dragon (DVS)	Backyardigans	Ni Hao, Kai-lan	Go, Diego, Go!
	505	398	19 TWN	(5) EarthWatch One		EarthWatch One		EarthWatch Two				
	602	568	23 W	House-Sell	House-Sell	Supernanny		Grocery Bag	Grocery Bag	Grocery Bag	The Restaurant	*Plain Truth*
	521	560	24 TLC	Hoarding: Buried Alive		Addicted "Amanda" (N)		Hoarding: Buried Alive		Addicted "Amanda"		Tiger Woods
	603	561	25 FOOD	Iron Chef America		Chopped		Restaurant Makeover		Diner, Drive-In	Unwrapped	Chopped
	615	520	26 A&E	Dog the Bounty Hunter		Bounty Hunter	Exterminator	Exterminator	Exterminator	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter
	617	522	32 SHOW	Trailer Park	Trailer Park	Relic Hunter		*Maternal Obsession* (2008, Suspense) Nichelle Tom.				HawthoRNe
	601	562	33 SLICE	End of Leash	End of Leash	End of Leash	End of Leash	ET Canada	Whatever	Real Housewives of New York		Housewives
	-	633	34 ENC2	Jane-Dragon	(7:25) *The Rhino Brothers* (2001, Drama)			*High School High* ★★ (1996, Comedy)			*Private School* (1983, Comedy)	
	520	505	35 DISC	Howe & Howe Tech (N)		Solving History-Olly Steeds		Daily Planet		Solving History-Olly Steeds		The Colony
	620	523	36 BRAVO	Celtic Woman: Songs-Heart		White Collar		Law & Order		Without a Trace		White Collar
	294	650	40 WPCH	SEC Postseason Preview		Seinfeld	Name Is Earl	*American Pie Presents: Band Camp* (2005, Comedy)				*Above the Rim*
	626	547	41 COM	Just for Laughs		Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Lucky Louie
	-	539	42 TCM	*42nd Street*	(7:45) *Gold Diggers of 1933* (1933, Musical Comedy)				*Professional Sweetheart* (1933, Comedy)			*Rafter Rom.*
	628	584	43 SPIKE	UFC Unleashed (HDTV)		UFC Primetime	UFC 111 Coun.	UFC Unleashed (HDTV)		UFC Primetime	UFC Primetime	CSI: Crime Scn
	522	516	45 HIST	Re-Inventors	Re-Inventors	Ice Pilots NWT (HDTV)		Nostradamus Effect		Ice Road Truckers		Ice Pilots NWT
	627	528	46 SPACE	Chuck (HDTV) (N)		Supernatural (HDTV)		Stargate SG-1 "Abyss"		Star Trek: Next Gener.		Trek: Voyager
	-	-	47 AMC	(6) *Red Planet* ★ (2000, Science Fiction)				*The Terminator* ★★★ (1984, Science Fiction) Arnold Schwarzenegger.				*Red Planet* ★
	619	525	49 TROP	Project Runway Canada		Dog Whisperer		Hoarders		Hoarders "Tara; Betty"		Parking Wars
	600	564	50 HGTV	Property Virgin	Unsellables	House Hunters	House Hunters	Holmes on Homes		Agent-Agent	Real Estate	Property Virgin
	501	391	52 CTV	CTV News Tonight		CTV News	CTV News	CTV News	CTV News	CTV News	CTV News	CTV News
	504	508	70 BNN	Squeeze Play		Business News	Commodities	Market Call Tonight		Headline	Commodities	Squeeze Play
	526	507	92 VIVA	The Closer		Cold Case "Devil Music"		Mediums	Ghostly Enc.	Judging Amy		Missing
	269	350	93 APTN	Investigates	Kitaajiwan: Severn River		Down2Earth	*Black Cloud* ★★ (2005, Drama) Eddie Spears, Julia Jones.				Mixed Blessing
	-	-	94 MCP	World News	News	My Queen	Immortal Yi, So	Van. Nights	Iranian Pop	Sabor Latino		Sabor Musical
	571	581	100 MMM	mmtop10.ca		Gene Simmons Family Jewels		Gene Simmons	Wild 'n Out	Gene Simmons Family Jewels		Gene Simmons
	570	580	101 MM	Video on Trial	Video on Trial	My Date With...	My Date With...	UR11		America's Best Dance Crew		MuchMegaHits
	581	566	102 MTV	The Real World		The Real World (N)		MTV Live	Sex, News-Roll	16 and Pregnant "Lori"		Real World
	-	-	116 TV5	(6) *Les Brigades du tigre*		A Table	Mixeur	TV5 Le Journal		(9:35) Thalassa Un magazine de la mer.		

Celebrity Buzz

A real American hero?

WOULD YOU TRUST THIS MAN WITH KEYS TO AN ARMOURY? Spencer Pratt announced this week he's fleeing The Hills for a job at American Defense Enterprises, a self-defense company that offers "world-class training in the entire spectrum of small arms weaponry."

The reality star told People he discovered a new passion in life, working for the Los Angeles-based company in their cyber security division.

To those thinking this was another one of Pratt's media "gotchas," well, you'd be wrong.

PopEater spoke with Pratt's new boss, A.D.E. head Bill Beasley, who insists the 26-year-old star is sincere and determined to "help do something good for a change."

Contrary to reports, the Hills star is not leaving his hit MTV show, a source tells us-magazine.com.

"All of that stuff about him leaving The Hills to fight cyber crime is not true," the insider insists.

The real story?

"He is leaving The Hills for six weeks because he was asked to."

The source explains that Pratt, 26, recently "flipped out" on the show's set after a female producer made a request to which he objected.

"Very rattled" by Pratt's outburst, the producer filed a complaint with the show's top producers — who then threatened to kick Pratt off the show.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

She doesn't take any flack

THE GIRL'S GOT GRIT Poison singer Bret Michaels — who has collaborated with the Miley Cyrus on their new single Nothing to Lose — is in awe of the 17-year-old singer-and-actress because she stands up for what she believes in.

He said: "Does she stir s— up? No. What I think that she does is she doesn't take any s—. I love that about her. I've seen it.

"I've seen people come at her, come at me, and we're both the same. I set them straight," he said. "A lot of times when you live in that Hollywood limelight, speaking your piece or doing your thing is organic and more controversial than people trying to be controversial."

Discussing whether or not Cyrus likes to create scandals, he added to America's OK! magazine: "I think the exact opposite … I think she's got a strong backbone."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

The future looks bright

ARE THEY OUT OF THE WOODS? Tiger Woods was spotted with his wife Elin for the first time since his sex scandal broke last November, usmagazine.com reports.

The two were spotted taking a stroll around their Isleworth gated community in Windermere, Fla., Saturday morning.

Walking several feet behind her husband, Elin, 30, wore a Nike bandana. (Interestingly, Nike is the one major sponsor that hasn't dropped Woods.)

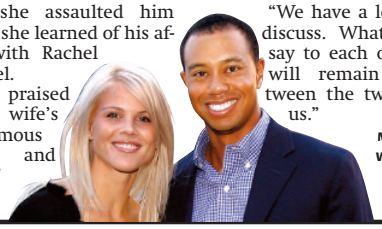
In his hyped-up public apology on Feb. 19, Woods refused to reveal whether he and his wife were splitting.

He also denied rumours that she assaulted him when she learned of his affair with Rachel Uchitel.

He praised his wife's "enormous grace and poise" and said that he and Elin have "started the process of discussing the damage caused by my behaviour … My real apology will not come in the form of words, but my behaviour over time.

"We have a lot to discuss. What we say to each other will remain between the two of us."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

CelebTweets

JORDIN SPARKs doesn't feel very safe, **DANNY DEVITO** is having a rough morning, **JOHN MAYER** is planning for the future, and **NICK CANNON** doesn't appreciate comparisons.

@TheRealJordin This fool driving me to the airport is texting and driving. So NOT okay.

@Danny_DeVito 7:14 stretching. Meditation. Fall off the side of the bed. Crack head on side table. Try to go to the doctor with ice bag disguised as straw hat

@johncmayer If I wanted to make a big impression my first day in prison, I'd walk up and punch the smallest, oldest dude in the face.

@Nick Cannon TMZ put me on Who would you rather with the little dude from Sum41... I don't know how I feel about that LOL

METRO NEWS SERVICES

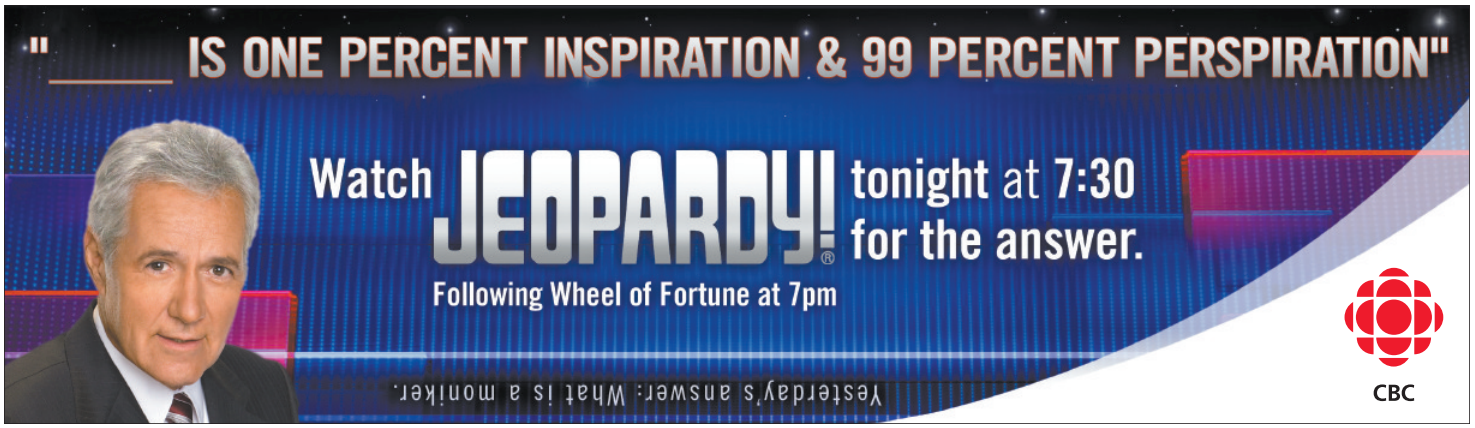
Drew 'basset hound' Barrymore

KINDA HAS A NICE RING TO IT Drew Barrymore insists she has no interest in plastic surgery.

"I'm so curious as to what's going to happen naturally that I can't imagine wanting to alter things just yet," the 35-year-old actress tells the Daily Mail.

"And to all those women putting botulism in their faces — we don't know what the long-term effects are, so stop! I'd rather look like a basset hound than do that to my face."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

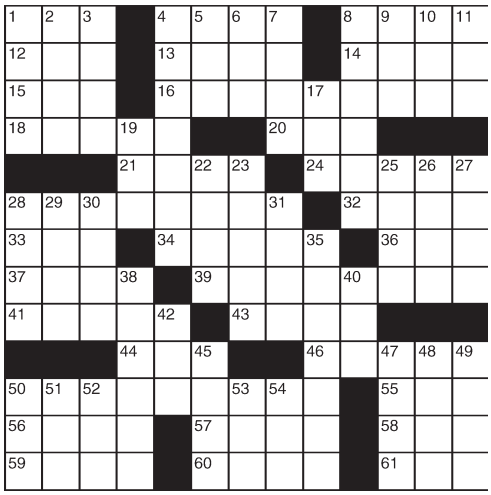


BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

Today Mostly Sunny 12 C / -1 C
Thursday Mostly Sunny 3 C / -3 C
Friday Sunny 1 C / -10 C

Andrew Schultz, Meteorologist – Breakfast Television
"I get to spread the word on how your day, evening or weekend will shape up with our ever-changing weather here in Alberta."
WEEKDAYS AT 6 A.M.

Take Five



ACROSS

1 Bashful
4 Founder of analytical psychology
8 Possess
12 Verily
13 Somewhere out there
14 Culture medium
15 Zero
16 "Join us"
18 River tributary, often
20 Humor
21 Cronies
24 Starbucks option
28 William Boyd's nom de Westerns
32 Sitarist's rendition
33 Work with
34 Place
36 Brooch
37 Passel
39 Annoying follower
41 "M*A*S*H" setting
43 Knighted woman
44 "CSI" evidence
46 Take as one's own
50 Musicfest
55 Neither mate
56 Genealogy chart
57 — gin fizz
58 Bill's partner
59 Goes off course
60 Probability
61 Actor Ron

DOWN

1 Harmonization
2 Inheritor
3 Ivy League school
4 Dogs' wild kin
5 Venusian vessel?
6 "Platoon" setting, for short
7 Got bigger
8 Summertime garment
9 Past
10 Moving truck
11 Work unit
17 Help
19 Fuel economy org.
22 Mississippi politico Trent
23 "Slammin' Sammy" of golf
25 Mafia boss
26 Not "fer"
27 Phyllis Diller's "husband"
28 Corn coating
29 Norway's capital
30 Juror, in theory
31 Pop singer Lady —
35 Court-case compensation
38 Shims
40 Started
42 Ortiz of "Ugly Betty"
45 Moreover
47 Erstwhile
48 Swimmers' place
49 Helen of —
50 Pigpen
51 401(k) alternative
52 Opposite of 53-Down
53 Opposite of 52-Down
54 Affirmative action?

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

8								9
	1		3	8	4		2	
	6						7	
		4	9		3	7		
	2						6	
		6	1		5	3		
	9						4	
	4		2	7	9		5	
1								8

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

O	P	A	L		U	N	D	O		T	N	T
F	I	N	E		S	E	E	M		E	A	U
T	E	N	N	E	S	S	E	E		N	I	B
			D	A	R	T		L	A	D	L	E
P	E	T	E	R			M	E	R	E		
O	V	E	R		F	L	A	T	I	R	O	N
K	I	N		V	I	A	L	S		I	V	E
E	L	E	G	A	N	C	E		C	Z	A	R
		M	A	C	K			F	I	E	L	D
O	M	E	G	A		S	E	A	R			
B	U	N		T	E	N	T	A	C	L	E	S
E	S	T		E	R	I	N		L	A	N	K
Y	E	S		D	A	T	A		E	D	D	Y

3	5	2	1	4	8	6	7	9
1	9	4	6	5	7	8	3	2
8	7	6	9	3	2	4	5	1
2	1	9	7	8	4	5	6	3
5	8	7	3	6	9	2	1	4
4	6	3	2	1	5	9	8	7
6	3	5	4	9	1	7	2	8
7	4	8	5	2	3	1	9	6
9	2	1	8	7	6	3	4	5

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

Metro Recipe of the Day

Chicken with 40 Cloves of Garlic

INGREDIENTS:
2 tsp olive oil
1 lb small white boiling potatoes
3 celery stalks, thickly sliced
2 carrots, halved lengthwise and cut into 1 1/2-in. pieces
40 garlic cloves, unpeeled
3/4 tsp tarragon
1/2 tsp rosemary, minced
3/4 tsp salt
1 cup chicken broth
1/2 cup dry vermouth
4 boneless, skinless chicken thighs
1/4 cup chopped parsley

METHOD:
1. Preheat oven to 350°F (180°C). Combine oil, potatoes, celery, carrots, garlic, tarragon, rosemary and salt in Dutch oven or flameproof casserole. Toss to combine.

2. Add broth and vermouth to pan and bring to boil over medium heat. Reduce to simmer, cover and cook 10 minutes.

3. Add chicken, cover and place in oven. Bake until chicken is cooked through and potatoes and garlic are tender, 30 minutes. Stir in parsley just before serving

SERVES 4

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Stick to what you know and trust. Changing fashions can be seductive but just because there is a new way of doing things does not mean it will be better.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
There are some things you must never reveal about yourself, no matter how tempted you may be to come clean and hope that others understand.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
There is a magnetic quality to your personality that will attract good things to you today — along with one or two bad things as well.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
As a cardinal sign you are rarely happy with a mid-level position. You were born for life at the top and you won't rest until you are Number One.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
You may have tried something and failed a dozen times before but this time you are going to get it right. This time you can't lose.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
The best way to deal with a difficult situation is to pretend it does not exist. This is one of those times when, by focusing on something, you give it power.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
If you feel trapped by a relationship, try mentioning that you need more time to yourself. If you say it the right way chances are they will understand.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
Let others lead the way and make suggestions, but don't let them use you as a guinea pig. If there is something risky they want to try let them go first.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
You should be feeling both more relaxed and more affectionate now. If not, don't worry, because the good times will begin soon.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
Sometimes you can be too suspicious, so give friends and relatives the benefit of the doubt today. It's nicer for them and nicer for you.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
The more friends and work colleagues try to press you to follow a certain path the more you will enjoy following a different path entirely.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
There is no point being too serious today. With the Sun in your sign forming a major union with Uranus, you really have nothing to worry about.

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This day in history

1756: Saint Patrick's Day is celebrated in New York City for the first time (at the Crown and Thistle Tavern).
1845: The rubber band is patented.
1942: Holocaust: The first Jews from the Lviv Ghetto are gassed at the Belzec death camp (eastern Poland).
1948: Benelux, France, and the United Kingdom sign the Treaty of Brussels, a precursor to the North Atlantic Treaty establishing NATO.
1969 : Golda Meir becomes the first female Prime Minister of Israel.
2008 : New York Gov. Eliot Spitzer resigns after a scandal involving a high-end prostitute.

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